



THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLETTER



Summer 2009

Number 80

Program Update

Summer is here, school is almost out, and along with the warm weather come plenty of outdoor activities and events. Keep us in mind when you are out and about and don't forget to contact us for volunteer opportunities or if you have any questions.

During this summer we are asking you to help in different ways. Keep us updated about the recycling programs at your local pools and walk around in your neighborhood handing out door hangers with the most updated recycling information. Our mission is to continue educating all residents about our recycling program.

We are also preparing for the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. We will be needing volunteers to help us staff the recycling information booth at the fair from Friday, August 14 through Saturday, August 22, 2009. With your help, we will spend nine days providing information about recycling, waste reduction, and buying recycled products to fair visitors. Our goal is to beat last year's attendance record and have lots of fun!

I look forward to working with everyone during the summer!

Recycling Volunteer Coordinator



Inside This Issue

Frequently Asked Questions	1
Pool Season is Here	1
Superstars	2
Earth Day Celebration a Hit!	2
Are You Donating or Recycling Your Computer?	3
Montgomery County Agricultural Fair	3
Volunteer Training Opportunities	3
Calendar of Events	4

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I recycle old CDs?

Yes, Montgomery County residents can take CDs and floppy disks to the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Center and recycled them with other electronic items and computers.

How do we dispose of aerosol cans?

Empty aerosol cans, such as air freshener and cooking oil sprays, can be recycled in your commingled recycling blue bin at home. Empty aerosol cans that once held automotive, pesticides or other hazardous products should be placed in your regular household trash. Aerosol cans containing hazardous products should be taken to the household hazardous waste drop-off site at the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Center or any of the County's satellite hazardous waste collection events.

The Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Center is located at 16101 Frederick Rd., Derwood, MD 20855.

Pool Season is Here!

I am sure many of you enjoy an afternoon or two at the pool during the summer. If you are frolicking at one of the many pools in the County and notice recycling containers are no where in sight, give us a call. These include pools at apartments and condominiums and neighborhood pools. We want to make sure recycling containers are available, especially in areas where people are most likely to use them. Areas where vending machines are located or where people will be producing recyclable materials need to have recycling containers available. Information can be provided to us anonymously at 240-777-6400.



Superstars!

On May 21, 2009, seven recycling volunteers were honored at the Division of Solid Waste Services' annual Recycling Achievement Awards Ceremony. During the ceremony, businesses, multi-family properties and individuals were recognized for their outstanding achievement in recycling. The 2009 Recycling Volunteer Award recipients were:

Sarah Chen - Volunteer since July 2008. Sarah contributed 33 hours of her time during the 2008 County Fair.

Joe Connor - Volunteer since 2000. Joe has volunteered at the County's satellite Household Hazardous Waste collection events, the County Fair, and various composting events.

Olivia Leung - Volunteers at the Division's office on a weekly basis helping out with filing, copying,

and preparing materials for outreach events. For the entire year, Olivia contributed 56 hours of service to the Division.

Bob Mabie - Long-time volunteer. Since 1993, Bob has educated his neighbors about the County's recycling program and composting. Bob has volunteered at the County's satellite Household Hazardous Waste collection events and the County Fair. Bob also encourages local groups to participate in the County's vegetable oil exchange program.

Dave, Calleen, and Darby White - Dave is a member of our speaker's bureau and is a lead volunteer at various outreach events throughout the County. Calleen has helped during several outreach events, and Darby has been a fast learner and assists her parents to perform their duties as Recycling Volunteers. Together, they have contributed more than 40 hours of service to the Division.



Earth Day Celebration a Hit!

The Division of Solid Waste Services celebrated Earth Day on Saturday, April 25, 2009. With your help, the celebration was a success. This year, we broke the previous attendance record with over 1,400 people participating in the event. Thank you for your help in making this event a success!

Once again, a special thank you goes to **Elisa Rapaport** for designing the Earth Day flyer! Elisa has been designing our Earth Day flyer for the past 3 years. Posters and flyers were distributed to schools, libraries, regional services centers, community centers, and other venues throughout the County.

Thank you for your help, Elisa!

**Thank you for your time
and dedication!**



Are you donating or recycling your computer?

Are you thinking about recycling or donating your computer? Depending on which one you choose different steps have to be taken to ensure your personal information is safe.

Recycling your computer at the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Center will decrease the number of steps you have to take to safeguard your personal information. Materials that are refurbishable are tested, cleaned up and redistributed. Materials that can not be reused are mechanically shredded into pieces no larger than 1.5 inches. The shredded material is then separated and recycled. In all cases, data is destroyed.

If you are donating your computer, you should clean your hard drive. Deleting documents is not enough! Not only can your documents be retrieved after being deleted, but your email contacts, messages, passwords, credit card information, and internet browser history can be found on your hard drive if not cleaned properly.

Before you get started make sure to back up your files or transfer files to your new computer, otherwise you will not be able to retrieve your files. If your computer is under warranty, you can contact the company's customer service line and ask for instructions on how to properly delete personal files. If your computer is no longer under warranty, consider using either a commercial or freeware disk cleaning software.

Our "Use it Again" database provides information on how to donate a variety of items including computers. You can access the guide by visiting our website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling. Make sure you contact the organization of your choice before heading over to drop off your computer.

Recycling your computer will prevent toxic materials from being disposed of in the trash. Donating your computer may extend the life of the computer. Either way, your personal information will be safeguarded if you make sure the proper steps are taken.



Montgomery County Agricultural Fair

Once again we are inviting volunteers to help at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair from August 14 through August 22, 2009. The Division of Solid Waste Services' will have a booth at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair to educate the community about recycling, waste reduction, and recycling updates.

Volunteer shifts are available Friday, August 14 through Saturday, August 22, 2009 from:

- 9 am – 12pm
- 12pm – 3pm
- 3pm – 6pm
- 6pm – 9pm

To sign up for shifts, call Ana Arriaza at 240-777-6445 or e-mail ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.



Volunteer Training Opportunities: Orientation Session

New volunteers are invited to participate in a volunteer orientation session. The session will focus on the ins and outs of the Recycling Volunteer Program as well as information about recycling in Montgomery County. New volunteers are strongly encouraged to participate to make their volunteer experience with us a rewarding one.

Thursday,
July 16, 2009
6pm to 9pm

To register, contact Ana Arriaza by calling 240-777-6445 or e-mail ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES
RECYCLING VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850**



2009 Summer Events Calendar



For more information about the events below, please contact the Recycling Volunteer Program at (240) 777-6445 or e-mail us at recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov.
All of our activities are approved Student Service Learning experiences.



Date	Time	Event	Location
All summer	You Pick	Hanging new door hangers in your neighborhood	Your neighborhood
July 3	10am to 2pm	Montgomery Village Foundation Fourth of July Celebration 	Montgomery Village
August 14 - 22	9am to 9pm	Montgomery County Agricultural Fair	Gaithersburg
September 12	11am to 4pm	Twinbrook Community Day	Rockville
	19 10am to 4pm	Poolesville Day	Poolesville
	20 12pm to 5pm	Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne	Gaithersburg
	26 12pm to 4pm	1st District Police Station Open House	Rockville

We will keep you updated as more events get added to the calendar!